First Grade Literacy “The What”

Unit 1: America the Beautiful & The Natural State

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| Themes:  Arkansas: Animals, State Symbols,  State Parks, and Plants  National: Constitution Day,  Labor Day, Election,  National Symbols,  Columbus Day  Community: All About Me, Rules,  Maps, People in  Authority  Author Study: Kevin Henkes | Essential Questions:  How are citizens united in America? |

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| Theme | Texts | Assessments | CCSS |
| Community | Author Study: Kevin Henkes  **A My Name is Alice**  First Day Jitters  Chrysanthemum | Construct class book using student’s names  \_\_\_\_\_\_ my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I like \_\_\_\_\_\_. | RL.1.2(retell stories)  RL.1.3(story elements)  RI.1.2(retell/main topic)  RI.1.5(text features)  RI.1.8(supporting details)  RF.1.1(features of a sentence)  RF.1.2 b,c,d(phonemes)  RF.1.3. a(digraphs)  RF. 1.4a,b  (fluency/comprehension)  SL.1.2(ask/answer questions)  SL.1.4(describe)  SL.1.5(add drawings)  W.1.5 (focus on a topic) |
| Community | **Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse**  Owen  Chester’s Way | Write a sentence about how you would feel if you were Lilly and the teacher took something of yours. |
| Community  Literacy Assessments | A Weekend with Wendell  Julius the Baby of the World  Lilly’s Big Day |  |
| Arkansas and Sound Waves (fiddle) | N is for the Natural State  Arkansas From Sea to Shining Sea  **Arkansas Rookie Read About Geography**  18 Wheels Rolling to Arkansas | Compose a sentence stating your favorite Arkansas symbol. |
| Arkansas  Plants and  Animals | Tomato, deer, chickens, pine tree, etc. passages  **The Snail’s Spell**  Swimmy  Life in the Pond | Journal Entry – How the behaviors of parents helps their offspring survive? |
| National | **The American Flag**  Oh, Say CanYou See  A is for America | Write a sentence describing the three colors of flag? |
| National | We The Kids  Celebrate America  **The White House** |  |
| Columbus | YOU WOULDN’T WANT TO SAIL WITH COLUMBUS  **MY FIRST BIOGRAPHY: CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS** | Non-Fiction Reading Response |
| Free Week  (consider another author study) |  |  |

Suggested Texts:

You’re a Grand Old Flag by Norman Rockwell

N is for our Nation’s Capital by Roland and Marie Smith

The Bald Eagle and The Statue of Liberty by Patricia Ryon Quirias

American Icons by Steve Gottlieb

When We Go Camping by Margriet Ruurs

Just Camping Out by Mercer Mayer

A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee by Chris Van Dusen

No David and David Goes to School by David Shannon

Morris Goes to School by B. Wiseman

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Unit 2: Celebrate American Holidays

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| Themes:  Fall: spiders, bats, pumpkins  Physical Science: Light and Sound  Thanksgiving: Native Americans,  Pilgrims, landforms,  Past/Present,  Timeline, People  from the past,  bartering  Christmas Around the World:  Globe, World/US map, landforms,  past/present, wants & needs  Author Study: Tomie DePaola  Terri Cohlene | Essential Questions:  How do famous people, places, and holidays contribute to the American way of life today? |

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| Theme | Texts | Assessments | CCSS |
| Fall | THE UGLY PUMPKIN  **SEED, SPROUT, PUMPKIN PIE** | Opinion Writing: Do you like pumpkin pie? | RL.1.2(retell stories)  RL.1.3(story elements)  RI.1.2(retell/main topic)  RI.1.5(text features)  RI.1.8(supporting details)  L.1.1 c(verb tense)  L.1.2 a,b,d,e(capitalization, end punctuation, spelling, phonetic spelling)  SL.1.1(participate)  SL.1.3(ask/answer questions)  SL.1.6(complete sentences)  RF.1.1(features of a sentence)  RF.1.2 b,c,d(phonemes)  RF.1.3 a(digraphs)  RF.1.4 a,b(fluency & comprehension)  W.1.1(opinion) |
| Fall/Light and Sound | STELLALUNA  NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC: BATS |  |
| Thanksgiving | **TOMIE DEPAOLA BIG BOOK OF FAVORITE LEGENDS**  CLAMSHELL BOY  COYOTE AND THE GRASSHOPPERS | Opinion Writing: Which Tomie DePaola book did you like the best? |
| Thanksgiving | ARROW TO THE SUN  QWILLWORKER  **DANCING DRUM** | Reading Response: Beginning, Middle, End |
| Thanksgiving | **LITTLE FIREFLY**  PILGRIM CAT  ‘TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE THANKSGIVING | Opinion Writing: What is your favorite Indian legend? |
| Christmas Around the World | THE LITTLE FIR TREE  **MR. WILLOWBY’S CHRISTMAS TREE**  THE LEGEND OF THE CANDY CANE | Retell Christmas Tree Shape Story |
| Christmas Around the World | **THE BUN: A TALE FROM RUSSIA**  **THE RUNAWAY TORTILLA**  YOON AND THE CHRISTMAS MITTEN | Opinion: What is your favorite gingerbread story variation? |
| Christmas Around the World | THE BAKER’S DOZEN  THE LEGEND OF THE OLD BEFANA  **THE CHRISTMAS GIFT** | Opinion: Which character should have been granted his or her wish? |
| Free Week  (Author Study) |  |  |

Suggested Texts:

The Popcorn Book by Tomie DePaola

The Gingerbread Man by Jim Aylesworth

The Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett

The Gingerbread Cowboy by Janet Squires

The Gingerbread Girl by Lisa Campbell Ernst

Gingerbread Friends by Jan Brett

Ginger Bear by Mini Grey

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Unit 3: Life as We Know It

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| Themes:  Organisms: Body  Martin Luther King Jr.  President’s Day  Black History  Winter Animals: penguins, bears  Author Study: Jan Brett | Essential Questions:  How have people and events from the past influence how we live today? |

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| Theme | Texts | Assessments | CCSS |
| Winter Animals | Author Study: Jan Brett  **Goldilocks and the Three Bears**  The Three Snow Bears  The Polar Bears | Write a story of a time you made a bad choice like Goldilocks did.  How do you keep yourself warm like the polar bears? | RL.1.2(retell stories)  RL.1.3(story elements)  RI.1.2(retell/main topic)  RI.1.5(text features)  RI.1.8(supporting details)  RF.1.2 a,b(long/short vowels, blending)  RF.1.3 c (long vowels)  RF.1.4 a,b(fluency & comprehension)  W.1.1(opinion)  W1.3(narrative)  L.1.1 c  (verb tense)  L.1.2 a-e(capitalization, end punctuation, commas, spelling, & phonetic spelling) |
| Winter Animals | North Pole, South Pole Penguins  **Tacky the Penguin** | Retell the story of Tacky the Penguin. |  |
| Martin Luther King Jr./Black History | **Almost to Freedom**  Night Boat to Freedom  The Story of Martin Luther King, Jr. | Retell story of Almost to Freedom. |
| Black History | The Taste of Colored Water  **Testing the Ice**  George Washington Carver | Write about a time when you felt mistreated. |
| Organisms:  Body Systems | A Busy Body Book  Hear Your Heart  **The Valentine Bears** |  |
| President’s Day | George Washington  **Mr. Lincoln’s Whiskers**  George Washington and the General’s Dog |  |
| Free Week  (Possible Author Study) |  |  |

Suggested Texts:

Armadillo Rodeo by Jan Brett

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Unit 4: Earth & Our Universe

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| Themes:  Seasons  Environment/Plants:  Earth Day, Recycling, Protecting  the environment  Solar System  Author Study: Gail Gibbons | Essential Questions:  Why do we need trees?  How can we protect our environment? |

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| Theme | Texts | Assessments | CCSS |
| Seasons | Author Study: Gail Gibbons  The Reason for Seasons  **The Seasons of Arnold’s Apple Tree**  Sunshine Makes the Seasons | Draw and write about the changes an apple tree makes in each season. | RL.1.2(retell stories)  RL.1.3(story elements)  L.1.1 c (verb tense)  L.1.2 a-e(capitalization, end punctuation, commas, spelling, & phonetic spelling)  RF.1.2 a,b (long/short vowel sounds & blending)  RF.1.3 c (long vowels)  RF.1.4 a,b(fluency & comprehension)  W.1.1(opinion)  W.1.2(informative)  W.1.3(narrative)  RI.1.2(retell/main topic)  RI.1.5(text features)  RI.1.8(supporting details) |
| Seasons | Watching the Seasons  **Seasons**  Changing Seasons | Choose a season and describe what you would wear and what activities you would engage in during that season. |
| Seasons | Weather Words  **Weather Forecasting**  Flash, Rumble, and Roll | Journal Entry  How would you stay safe in severe weather? |
| Seasons | **The Wind Blew**  Oh Say Can You Say What’s the Weather Today?  Temperature and You | Journal Entry  Compare two objects to explain why one would blow away and the other would remain stationary. |
|  | Tornadoes  Wacky Weather  **Change It!** | Describe the changes in an ice cube. |
| Environment/Plants | Our Tree Named Steve  **Be a Friend To Trees**  The Lorax | Describe why trees are essential to us. |
| Environment/Plants | **Oliver and the Oil Spill**  Reusing and Recycling  The Adventures of the Aluminum Can | Describe ways we can help our Earth. |
| Solar System | Sunshine On My Shoulders  Stargazers  **Every Planet Has a Place** | Explain why we need the sun. |
| Solar System | There’s No Place Like Space  **The Planets**  Meet the Planets | Sort the planets in order and choose one to describe in writing. |
| Free Week  (author study) |  |  |  |

Suggested Texts:

Tornadoes by Gail Gibbons

Hurricanes by Gail Gibbons

What will the Weather Be? By Lynda DeWitt

Tour of the Planets by Melvin Berger

Every Planet Has a Place by Becky Baines